

# Large Truck Traffic Safety



Included in the 2007 Master Study Resolution were two study items, "Reducing Large Rig Accidents - to study safety issues related to large rigs on highways, including a study of the frequency of accidents involving large rigs as compared to surrounding states, and measures to reduce accidents" and "Truck Speed Limit - to study whether the speed limit on interstate highways should be reduced for vehicles with five or more axles." This handout summarizes lane use and speed restrictions placed on large trucks by eleven western states.

*Prepared by the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel (July 2007)*

State	Lane Restrictions for Trucks	Speed Restrictions for Trucks
Arizona	The Department of Transportation or a local government may designate a lane to be used by large trucks. <i>Arizona Statute 28-736</i>	65 miles per hour (mph) unless the department establishes a different limit 75 mph for other vehicles <i>Arizona Statute 28-709</i>
California	If a lane has been designated for truck use, the truck must stay in the lane. However, if there are four lanes traveling in one direction the truck may use the lane to the immediate left of the designated lane. <i>Cal Veh Code § 22406 and 22348</i>	55 mph on any highway 65 or 70 mph for other vehicles  <i>Cal Veh Code § 22406</i>
Colorado	None	None
Idaho	None	65 mph on interstate highways 75 for other vehicles <i>Idaho Code § 49-654</i>
Montana	None	65 mph on the interstate 60 mph on other public highways 75 mph for other vehicles <i>Mont. Code Anno., § 61-8-312</i>
Nevada	None	The Department of Transportation may establish a lower speed limit for trucks and overweight and oversized vehicles. <i>Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 484.368</i>
New Mexico	None	None

Oregon	<p>A person may only operate a vehicle with a registration weight of 10,000 pounds or more in the right lane of all roadways having two or more lanes for traffic proceeding in a single direction.</p> <p><i>ORS § 811.325</i></p>	<p>55 miles per hour on an interstate highway 65 for other vehicles</p> <p><i>ORS § 811.111</i></p>
Utah	<p>Vehicles towing a trailer or semi-trailer or with a gross vehicle weight rating over 12,000 lbs. may not be operated in the left lane of 3-lane freeway.</p> <p><i>Utah Code § 41-6a-702</i></p>	<p>None.</p> <p>Department is permitted to establish different speeds for specific vehicle types.</p> <p><i>Utah Code § 41-6a-602</i></p>
Washington	<p>Vehicles towing a trailer or vehicles over 10,000 lbs may not drive in the left-hand lane of a highway having three or more lanes.</p> <p><i>Rev. Code Wash. § 46.61.100</i></p>	<p>60 mph for trucks and other vehicles up to 70 mph for most other vehicles</p> <p>The Secretary of Transportation may establish a lower limit.</p> <p><i>Rev. Code Wash. § 46.61.410</i></p>
Wyoming	None	<p>None</p> <p>Department may establish lower speed limits.</p> <p><i>Wyo. Stat. § 31-5-301</i></p>